## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventors: James D. Thornton and Richard R. Burton

Appl. No.: 09/740,076

Confirm. No.: 4563

Filed: December 19, 2000

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR EXECUTING

BATCH JOBS BY DELEGATING WORK TO INDEPENDENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 2194

Examiner: Zhen, Li B.

Atty. Docket No. D/99578

(XERX-01042US0)

Customer No.: 23910

## REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 § CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dy to Alexandr

Dy Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Reply is in response to the Office Action dated October 27, 2006.

Amendments to the Specification are shown on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.